

A Theorem on Frequency Function for Multiple-Valued Dirichlet Minimizing Functions *

Wei Zhu

February 2, 2008

Abstract

This paper discusses the frequency function of multiple-valued Dirichlet minimizing functions in the special case when the domain and range are both two dimensional. It shows that the frequency function must be of value $k/2$ for some nonnegative integer k . Furthermore, by looking at the blowing-up functions, we characterize the local behavior of the original Dirichlet minimizing function.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: Primary 49Q20

*Department of mathematics, Rice University, Houston, TX 77005, U.S.A;
weizhu@math.rice.edu

1 Introduction

Frequency function for multiple-valued functions was introduced by Almgren in [AF] to study the branching behavior for multiple-valued Dirichlet minimizing functions:

$$N(r) = \frac{r \int_{\mathbb{B}_r^m(a)} |Df|^2}{\int_{\partial \mathbb{B}_r^m(a)} |f|^2}.$$

For Dirichlet minimizing functions, $N(r)$ is nondecreasing in r . Almgren establishes this monotonicity by certain range and domain deformations, called “squashing” and “squeezing”. The monotonicity property enables one to prove by dimension reduction that such multiple-valued functions have branched sets of codimension at least two.

To get a better idea about this frequency function, consider a harmonic function on \mathbb{R}^2 , and express it in terms of polar coordinates: $u(r, \theta)$. If we fix r , we can expand the resulting function of θ as a Fourier series. Now as r decreases, the higher frequency terms in the Fourier series die off faster than the lower frequency terms.

Monotonicity of frequency functions have been used in some other work, see [GL], [LF], [GS].

The motivation of this paper was trying to characterize multiple-valued Dirichlet minimizing functions $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_2(\mathbb{R}^2)$, which is homogeneous of some positive degree. There are a lot of them like $z^{1/2}, \pm z, z^{3/2}$. In general, any function of the form

$$z^N, \text{ for some positive real number } N$$

could be a candidate. One thing worth mentioning is that the frequency function at the origin of z^N is exactly N . However, not every N gives a 2-valued function because the function has to match up itself once going around the circle one time. For example, consider the function

$$f : (r, \theta) \rightarrow [[(r^N \cos(N\theta), r^N \sin(N\theta))]] + [[(-r^N \cos(N\theta), -r^N \sin(N\theta))]],$$

when $N = 1/4$.

$$f(r, 0) = [[(r^N, 0)]] + [[(-r^N, 0)]], f(r, 2\pi) = [[(0, r^N)]] + [[(0, -r^N)]].$$

They do not match. We will see that in this case, only by choosing $N = k/2$ for some positive integer k makes f a well-defined 2-valued function. This is basically the main ingredient of the proof of our main theorem, matching up values for $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = 2\pi$. More precisely, given a multiple-valued Dirichlet minimizing function $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_2(\mathbb{R}^2)$, with $\mathcal{N}(0) = N$, we use the blowing-up analysis to get a Dirichlet minimizing function $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_2(\mathbb{R}^2)$ of homogeneous degree N with the same frequency N at the origin. By doing the matching up business for g , we succeed in proving $N = k/2$ for some nonnegative integer k . A by-product of this proof is the characterization of local behavior of original

function f near the origin.

So a natural question is whether we have similar results in higher dimension, either domain or the range, or higher multiplicity Q . For functions $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_3(\mathbb{R}^2)$, it would take a lot more work to matching up values. Therefore some other easier methods are expected to give a full answer to this question in general.

2 Preliminaries

We refer to [AF], [ZW1] for most of notations, definitions and known results about multiple-valued functions. For reader's convenience, here we state some useful results. The proofs of them can be found in [AF].

Theorem 2.1 ([AF], §2.6). *Hypotheses:*

- (a) $0 < r_0 < \infty$.
- (b) $A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is connected, open, and bounded with $\mathbb{U}_{r_0}^m(0) \subset A$. ∂A is an $m-1$ dimensional submanifold of \mathbb{R}^m of class 1.
- (c) $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ is strictly defined and is Dir minimizing.
- (d) $D, H, N : (0, r_0) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are defined for $0 < r < r_0$ by setting

$$\begin{aligned} D(r) &= \text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_r^m(0)) \\ H(r) &= \int_{\partial \mathbb{B}_r^m(0)} \mathcal{G}(f(x), Q[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^{m-1}x \\ N(r) &= rD(r)/H(r) \text{ provided } H(r) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

- (e) $\mathcal{N} : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined for $x \in A$ by setting

$$\mathcal{N}(x) = \lim_{r \downarrow 0} rD(r)/\int_{\partial \mathbb{B}_r^m(x)} \mathcal{G}(f(z), Q[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^{m-1}z$$

provided this limit exists.

- (f) $H(r) > 0$ for some $0 < r < r_0$.

Conclusions.

- (1) $\eta \circ f \in \mathcal{Y}_2(A, \mathbb{R}^n)$ is Dir minimizing and harmonic.
- (2) $N(r)$ is defined for each $0 < r < r_0$ and is nondecreasing.
- (3) $\mathcal{N}(0) = \lim_{r \downarrow 0} N(r)$ exists.
- (4) $A = A \cap \{x : \text{for some } 0 < r < \text{dist}(x, \partial A), \int_{\partial \mathbb{U}_r^m(x)} \mathcal{G}(f(z), Q[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^{m-1} > 0\}$.
- (5) $\mathcal{N}(x)$ is well defined for each $x \in A$ and is upper semi-continuous as a function of x .
- (6) In case $N(r) = \mathcal{N}(0)$ for \mathcal{L}^1 almost all $0 < r < r_0$, then

$$f(x) = \mu[(r/r_1)^{\mathcal{N}(0)}]_{\sharp} f(r_1 x/|x|)$$

for \mathcal{L}^{m-1} almost all $x \in \partial \mathbb{U}_r^m(0)$ and each $0 < r_1 < r_0$.

Theorem 2.2 ([AF], §2.13). *Hypotheses.*

- (a) In case $m = 2$, $\omega_{2.13} = 1/Q$.
- (b) In case $m \geq 3$, $0 < \epsilon_Q < 1$ is as defined as in [AF], §2.11 and $0 < \omega_{2.13} < 1$ is defined by the requirement

$$m - 2 + 2\omega_{2.13} = (m - 2)(1 + \epsilon_Q)/(1 - \epsilon_Q).$$

(c)

$$\Gamma_{2.13} = 4^{1-\omega_{2.13}} [2^{m/2}/(1-2^{-\omega_{2.13}}) + 3 \cdot 2^{m-1+\omega_{2.13}}] (m\alpha(m))^{-1/2} \text{Lip}(\xi)^2 \text{Lip}(\xi^{-1}).$$

(d) $f \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{Q})$ is strictly defined and $f|_{\mathbb{U}_1^m(0)}$ is Dir minimizing with $\text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_1^m(0)) > 0$.

$$(e) \mathcal{N}(0) = \lim_{r \downarrow 0} r \text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_r^m(0)) / \int_{x \in \partial \mathbb{B}_r^m(0)} \mathcal{G}(f(x), Q[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^{m-1}x.$$

Conclusions.

(1) For each $z \in \mathbb{U}_1^m(0)$, $0 < r < 1 - |z|$, and $0 < s \leq 1$,

$$\text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_{sr}^m(z)) \leq s^{m-2+2\omega_{2.13}} \text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_r^m(z)).$$

(2) Whenever $0 < \delta < 1$ and $p, q \in \mathbb{B}_{1-\delta}^m(0)$,

$$\mathcal{G}(f(p), f(q)) \leq \Gamma_{2.13} \delta^{-m/2} \text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_1^m(0))^{1/2} |p - q|^{\omega_{2.13}},$$

in particular, $f|_{\mathbb{B}_{1-\delta}^m(0)}$ is Hölder continuous with exponent $\omega_{2.13}$.

(3) Either $f(0) = Q[[0]]$ and $\mathcal{N}(0) \geq \omega_{2.13}$ or $f(0) \neq Q[[0]]$ and $\mathcal{N}(0) = 0$.

(4) Suppose $f(0) = Q[[0]]$ and $1/2 > r(1) > r(2) > r(3) > \dots > 0$ with $0 = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} r(i)$. Then there is a subsequence i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots of $1, 2, 3, \dots$ and a function $g : \mathbb{B}_1^m(0) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ with the following properties:

(a) g is the uniform limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$ of the functions

$$\mu(\text{Dir}(f \circ \mu[r(i_k)]; \mathbb{B}_1^m(0))^{-1/2})_{\sharp} \circ f \circ \mu[r(i_k)]|_{\mathbb{B}_1^m(0)}.$$

(b) $g|_{\mathbb{U}_1^m(0)} \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{U}_1^m(0), \mathbb{Q})$ is Dir minimizing with $\text{Dir}(g; \mathbb{B}_1^m(0)) = 1$.

(c) $\int_{x \in \partial \mathbb{B}_1^m(0)} \mathcal{G}(g(x), Q[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^{m-1}x = 1/\mathcal{N}(0)$.

(d) $g(0) = Q[[0]]$ and for each $x \in \mathbb{B}_1^m(0) \sim \{0\}$,

$$g(x) = \mu(|x|^{\mathcal{N}(0)})_{\sharp} \circ g(x/|x|).$$

(e) For each $p, q \in \mathbb{B}_1^m(0)$,

$$\mathcal{G}(g(p), g(q)) \leq 2^{m/2 - \omega_{2.13} + \mathcal{N}(0)} \Gamma_{2.13} |p - q|^{\omega_{2.13}}.$$

(5) Corresponding to each bounded open set A such that ∂A is a compact $m-1$ dimensional submanifold of \mathbb{R}^m of class 1, there is a constant $0 < \Gamma_A < \infty$ with the following property. Whenever $g \in \mathcal{Y}_2(A, \mathbb{Q})$ is Dir minimizing and $p, q \in A$,

$$\mathcal{G}(g(p), g(q)) \leq \Gamma_A \text{Dir}(g; A)^{1/2} \sup\{\text{dist}(p, \partial A)^{-m/2}, \text{dist}(q, \partial A)^{-m/2}\} |p - q|^{\omega_{2.13}}.$$

Theorem 2.3 ([AF], §2.14). (1) Let $\mu \in \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}$ and suppose $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_Q \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{U}_1^\mu(0), \mathbb{R}^n)$ are strictly defined. Then $f = \sum_{i=1}^Q [[f_i]] \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{U}_1^\mu, \mathbb{Q})$. Furthermore, in case f is Dir minimizing, so is each $f_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$.

(2) Suppose $f \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{U}_1^m(0), \mathbb{Q})$ is strictly defined and Dir minimizing. Then the function

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma : \mathbb{U}_1^m(0) &\rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}, \\ \sigma(x) &= \text{card} [\text{spt}(f(x))] \text{ for } x \in \mathbb{U}_1^m(0),\end{aligned}$$

is lower semi-continuous, the set

$$\Sigma = \mathbb{U}_1^m(0) \cap \{x : \sigma \text{ is not continuous at } x\}$$

is closed in $\mathbb{U}_1^m(0)$ with Hausdorff dimension not exceeding $m - 2$, and the set $\mathbb{U}_1^m(0) \sim \Sigma$ is open and path connected. Furthermore, there exist $J \in \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}$ and $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_J \in \{1, 2, \dots, Q\}$ with $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_J = Q$ with the following properties: whenever $W \subset \mathbb{U}_1^m(0) \sim \Sigma$ is open and simply connected, there are harmonic functions $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_J : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^J k_i [[f_i(x)]]$ and $J = \text{card} \{f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_J(x)\}$ for each $x \in W$.

3 Main Theorem

Theorem 3.1. Hypotheses.

- (a) $m = 2, n = 2, Q = 2, \omega_{2.13} = 1/2$.
- (b) $f \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{R}^2))$ is strictly defined and $f|_{\mathbb{U}_1^2(0)}$ is Dir minimizing with $\text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_1^2(0)) > 0$.
- (c) $f(0) = 2[[0]]$,
- (d) $\mathcal{N}(0) = \lim_{r \downarrow 0} r \text{Dir}(f; \mathbb{B}_r^2(0)) / \int_{x \in \partial \mathbb{B}_r^2(0)} \mathcal{G}(f(x), 2[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^1 x$

Conclusion.

$$\mathcal{N}(0) = k/2, \text{ for some positive integer } k.$$

Proof. According to Theorem 2.2, we know that $\mathcal{N}(0) \geq \omega_{2.13} > 0$ and suppose $1/2 > r(1) > r(2) > r(3) > \dots > 0$ with $0 = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} r(i)$, then there is a subsequence i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots of $1, 2, 3, \dots$ and a function $g : \mathbb{B}_1^2(0) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ with the following properties:

- (1) g is the uniform limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$ of the functions

$$\mu(\text{Dir}(f \circ \mu[r(i_k)]; \mathbb{B}_1^2(0))^{-1/2})_\sharp \circ f \circ \mu[r(i_k)]|_{\mathbb{B}_1^2(0)}.$$

- (2) $g|_{\mathbb{U}_1^2(0)} \in \mathcal{Y}_2(\mathbb{U}_1^2(0), \mathbb{Q})$ is Dir minimizing with $\text{Dir}(g; \mathbb{B}_1^2(0)) = 1$.
- (3) $\int_{x \in \partial \mathbb{B}_1^2(0)} \mathcal{G}(g(x), 2[[0]])^2 d\mathcal{H}^1 x = 1/\mathcal{N}(0)$.
- (4) $g(0) = 2[[0]]$ and for each $x \in \mathbb{B}_1^2(0) \sim \{0\}$,

$$g(x) = \mu(|x|^{\mathcal{N}(0)})_\sharp \circ g(x/|x|).$$

- (5) For each $p, q \in \mathbb{B}_1^2(0)$,

$$\mathcal{G}(g(p), g(q)) \leq 2^{1/2 + \mathcal{N}(0)} \Gamma_{2.13} |p - q|^{1/2}.$$

First of all, we claim

$$\Sigma(g) = \emptyset, \text{ or } \{0\}.$$

This comes from the fact that g is homogeneous of degree $\mathcal{N}(0)$. If σ is not continuous at some nonzero point y , σ is not continuous at every point on the ray $ty, t \in (0, 1)$. Then the Hausdorff dimension of Σ is at least one, which is in contradiction to Theorem 2.3(2).

Rest of the proof is divided into two cases: $\Sigma = \emptyset$ and $\Sigma = \{0\}$.

3.1 $\Sigma = \{0\}$

If $\Sigma = \{0\}$, applying Theorem 2.3(2) to the function g , we get $J = 2$. This is because otherwise if $J = 1$, then for any point $x \in \mathbb{U}_1^2(0) \sim \{0\}$, $\sigma(x) = 1$. Therefore σ is a constant function on $\mathbb{U}_1^2(0)$, which means $\Sigma = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption.

Take $W = \mathbb{U}_1^2(0) \sim \{(x, 0), x \geq 0\}$ in Theorem 2.3(2), we have

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^2 [[h_i(x)]], x \in W$$

for harmonic functions $h_i : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, i = 1, 2$ and $h_1(x) \neq h_2(x), \forall x \in W$.

For simplicity, we denote $\mathcal{N}(0)$ as N . Since g is homogeneous of degree N , so is $h_i, i = 1, 2$. Hence we can write

$$g(r, \theta) = [[r^N g_1(\theta)]] + [[r^N g_2(\theta)]], 0 < r \leq 1, 0 < \theta < 2\pi$$

where $g_i : (0, 2\pi) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, i = 1, 2$, and $r^N g_i$ is harmonic, $i = 1, 2$.

Moreover, in spirit of Theorem 2.3(1), $r^N g_i$ must be Dir minimizing, hence conformal on W for $i = 1, 2$.

Let

$$g_1(\theta) = (g_1^1(\theta), g_1^2(\theta)), g_2(\theta) = (g_2^1(\theta), g_2^2(\theta)).$$

The Laplacian operator in polar coordinate can be expressed as

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}.$$

Do the computation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2}(r^N g_i^j(\theta)) &= N(N-1)r^{N-2}g_i^j(\theta), \\ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}(r^N g_i^j(\theta)) &= N r^{N-2}g_i^j(\theta), \\ \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}(r^N g_i^j(\theta)) &= r^{N-2}[g_i^j(\theta)]''. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\Delta(r^N g_i^j(\theta)) = r^{N-2}[N^2 g_i^j(\theta) + [g_i^j(\theta)]''] = 0, i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2$.
Hence we can represent $g_i^j(\theta)$ as

$$g_i^j(\theta) = a_i^j \cos(N\theta) + b_i^j \sin(N\theta), i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, \text{ for some constants } a_i^j, b_i^j.$$

Denote

$$g(r, \theta) = r^N [(a \cos(N\theta) + b \sin(N\theta), c \cos(N\theta) + d \sin(N\theta))] \\ + r^N [(\tilde{a} \cos(N\theta) + \tilde{b} \sin(N\theta), \tilde{c} \cos(N\theta) + \tilde{d} \sin(N\theta))], 0 < r < 1, 0 < \theta < 2\pi$$

where $a, b, c, d, \tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}$ are constants.

Denote

$$h_1 = r^N g_1(\theta) = (r^N(a \cos(N\theta) + b \sin(N\theta)), r^N(c \cos(N\theta) + d \sin(N\theta))) = (f_1, f_2).$$

In the polar coordinate,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \cdot \cos \theta + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \cdot \left(\frac{-\sin \theta}{r} \right), \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \cdot \sin \theta + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \cdot \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r} \right).$$

Do the computation,

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial r} \cos \theta + \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{-\sin \theta}{r} \right) \\ = N r^{N-1} (a \cos(N\theta) + b \sin(N\theta)) \cos \theta + r^N (-aN \sin(N\theta) + bN \cos(N\theta)) \frac{-\sin \theta}{r} \\ = N r^{N-1} (a \cos(N\theta) \cos \theta + b \sin(N\theta) \cos \theta + a \sin(N\theta) \sin \theta - b \cos(N\theta) \sin \theta) \\ = N r^{N-1} (a \cos((N-1)\theta) + b \sin((N-1)\theta)).$$

Similarly, $\frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x} = N r^{N-1} (c \cos((N-1)\theta) + d \sin((N-1)\theta))$.

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial r} \sin \theta + \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r} \right) \\ = N r^{N-1} (a \cos(N\theta) + b \sin(N\theta)) \sin \theta + r^N (-aN \sin(N\theta) + bN \cos(N\theta)) \frac{\cos \theta}{r} \\ = N r^{N-1} (a \cos(N\theta) \sin \theta + b \sin(N\theta) \sin \theta - a \sin(N\theta) \cos \theta + b \cos(N\theta) \cos \theta) \\ = N r^{N-1} (b \cos((N-1)\theta) - a \sin((N-1)\theta))$$

Similarly, $\frac{\partial f_2}{\partial y} = N r^{N-1} (d \cos((N-1)\theta) - c \sin((N-1)\theta))$.

Let $(N-1)\theta = \phi$,

$$\frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x} = \left(\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x} \right) = N r^{N-1} (a \cos \phi + b \sin \phi, c \cos \phi + d \sin \phi), \\ \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial y} = \left(\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial y} \right) = N r^{N-1} (b \cos \phi - a \sin \phi, d \cos \phi - c \sin \phi).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
|\frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x}|^2 &= N^2 r^{2(N-1)} [a^2 \cos^2 \phi + b^2 \sin^2 \phi + 2ab \sin \phi \cos \phi + c^2 \cos^2 \phi + d^2 \sin^2 \phi + 2cd \sin \phi \cos \phi] \\
|\frac{\partial h_1}{\partial y}|^2 &= N^2 r^{2(N-1)} [b^2 \cos^2 \phi + a \sin^2 \phi - 2ab \sin \phi \cos \phi + d^2 \cos^2 \phi + c^2 \sin^2 \phi - 2cd \sin \phi \cos \phi] \\
\langle \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \rangle &= N^2 r^{2(N-1)} [ab \cos^2 \phi - a^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi + b^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi - ab \sin^2 \phi + cd \cos^2 \phi - c^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi + d^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi - cd \sin^2 \phi].
\end{aligned}$$

Using the conformal condition, and after simplification, we have

$$(a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2) \cos^2 \phi + (b^2 + d^2 - a^2 - c^2) \sin^2 \phi + (4ab + 4cd) \sin \phi \cos \phi = 0,$$

and

$$(ab + cd) \cos^2 \phi - (ab + cd) \sin^2 \phi + (b^2 + d^2 - a^2 - c^2) \sin \phi \cos \phi = 0.$$

While the first one can be further reduced to

$$(a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2) \cos(2\phi) + (2ab + 2cd) \sin(2\phi) = 0,$$

and the second one can be reduced to

$$(ab + cd) \cos(2\phi) + \frac{b^2 + d^2 - a^2 - c^2}{2} \sin(2\phi) = 0.$$

In a matrix form, that is equivalent to

$$\begin{pmatrix} a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2 & 2(ab + cd) \\ ab + cd & -\frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2\phi) \\ \sin(2\phi) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

for any $\phi = (N-1)\theta$. Therefore, we must have

$$a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2 = 0, ab + cd = 0.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\tilde{a}^2 + \tilde{c}^2 - \tilde{b}^2 - \tilde{d}^2 = 0, \tilde{a}\tilde{b} + \tilde{c}\tilde{d} = 0.$$

Now we will discuss the solutions of above equations.

If $c = 0$, then $ab = 0$, i.e. $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.

If $c = a = 0$, then $b = d = 0$.

If $c = b = 0$, then $a = \pm d$.

If $d = 0$, then $ab = 0$, i.e. $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.

If $d = a = 0$, then $c = \pm b$.

If $d = b = 0$, then $a = c = 0$.

Now we assume that $cd \neq 0$, let $a = kc$, $b = ld$, for some constants k, l .

$$a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2 = k^2 c^2 + c^2 - l^2 d^2 - d^2 = (k^2 + 1)c^2 - (l^2 + 1)d^2 = 0$$

$$ab + cd = (kl + 1)cd = 0.$$

Since $cd \neq 0$, $kl = -1$, i.e. $l = -1/k$.

$$\text{So } (k^2 + 1)c^2 = (l^2 + 1)d^2 = \left(\frac{1}{k^2} + 1\right)d^2 = \frac{k^2 + 1}{k^2}d^2.$$

$$\text{Hence } d^2 = k^2c^2, \text{ i.e. } d = \pm kc, b = ld = -\frac{1}{k} \cdot \pm kc = \mp c.$$

In a word, here are the possible solutions of a, b, c, d :

- (1) $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0$
- (2) $(a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0$
- (3) $(a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0$
- (4) $(a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0), b \neq 0$
- (5) $(a, b, c, d) = (kc, -c, c, kc), k \neq 0, c \neq 0$
- (6) $(a, b, c, d) = (kc, c, c, -kc), k \neq 0, c \neq 0$
- (7) $(a, b, c, d) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$

We have the same conclusions about $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}$.

Finally, we will check the requirement that $\eta \circ g = \frac{1}{2}(r^N g_1(\theta) + r^N g_2(\theta))$ is Dir minimizing, i.e $r^N((a + \tilde{a}) \cos(N\theta) + (b + \tilde{b}) \sin(N\theta), (c + \tilde{c}) \cos(N\theta) + (d + \tilde{d}) \sin(N\theta))$ is Dir minimizing. Therefore, the 4-tuple $(a + \tilde{a}, b + \tilde{b}, c + \tilde{c}, d + \tilde{d})$ must be in one of the seven forms above.

Now let us consider the possibility of matching up the two 4-tuples (a, b, c, d) , and $(\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d})$.

$$(1)+(1), \text{i.e } (a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (\tilde{d}, 0, 0, \tilde{d}), \tilde{d} \neq 0.$$

$$(a + \tilde{a}, b + \tilde{b}, c + \tilde{c}, d + \tilde{d}) = (d + \tilde{d}, 0, 0, d + \tilde{d})$$

$$g(r, 0) = [[r^N(d, 0)]] + [[r^N(\tilde{d}, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = [[r^N(d \cos(2\pi N), d \sin(2\pi N))]] + [[r^N(\tilde{d} \cos(2\pi N), \tilde{d} \sin(2\pi N))]]$$

Let $\psi = 2\pi N$. Since g is Hölder continuous in $\mathbb{U}_1^m(0)$, $g(r, 0) = g(r, 2\pi)$, i.e.,

$$d \sin(2\pi N) = \tilde{d} \sin(2\pi N) = 0$$

$$\sin(2\pi N) = 0$$

$$2\pi N = k\pi, \text{i.e } N = k/2, \text{ for some integer } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Case 1:

$$d \cos(2\pi N) = d, \tilde{d} \cos(2\pi N) = \tilde{d}$$

$$\cos(2\pi N) = 1, \text{i.e } 2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some integer } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$N = k, \text{ for some integer } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Therefore, $g(r, \theta) = dr^k [[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + \tilde{d}r^k [[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]]$.

Case 2:

$$d = \tilde{d} \cos(2\pi N), \tilde{d} = d \cos(2\pi N)$$

$$\cos(2\pi N) = \pm 1, \text{i.e. } 2\pi N = k\pi$$

$N = k/2$, for some integer $k = 1, 2, \dots$

If N is an integer, then $d = \tilde{d}$.

$$g(r, \theta) = 2dr^k[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))],$$

in which case $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Hence $N = k/2$, for some odd integer k

$$d = -\tilde{d}$$

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^{k/2}[(\cos(\theta k/2), \sin(\theta k/2))] + (-d)r^{k/2}[(\cos(\theta k/2), \sin(\theta k/2))]$$

(1)+(2): $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-\tilde{d}, 0, 0, \tilde{d}), \tilde{d} \neq 0$.

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (d - \tilde{d}, 0, 0, d + \tilde{d})$$

which is in neither of those seven forms.

(1)+(3): $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, \tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{d} \neq 0$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (d, \tilde{b}, \tilde{b}, d)$$

which is in neither of those seven forms.

(1)+(4): $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{d} \neq 0$.

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (d, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, d)$$

which is of form (5).

$$g(r, 0) = [[r^N(d, 0)]] + [[r^N(0, -\tilde{b})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = [[r^N(d \cos(2\pi N), d \sin(2\pi N))]] + [[r^N(\tilde{b} \sin(2\pi N), -\tilde{b} \cos(2\pi N))]]$$

Case 1:

$$d = d \cos(2\pi N), 0 = d \sin(2\pi N), 0 = \tilde{b} \sin(2\pi N), -\tilde{b} = -\tilde{b} \cos(2\pi N)$$

$$\cos(2\pi N) = 1, \sin(2\pi N) = 0$$

$$N = k, \text{ for some integer } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^k[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))] + \tilde{b}r^k[(\sin(k\theta), -\cos(k\theta))]$$

Case 2:

$$d = \tilde{b} \sin(2\pi N), 0 = -\tilde{b} \cos(2\pi N), 0 = d \cos(2\pi N), -\tilde{b} = d \sin(2\pi N)$$

which has no solutions.

(1)+(5). $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$.

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (d + l\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, d + l\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = [[r^N(d, 0)]] + [[r^N(l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = [[r^N(d \cos(2\pi N), d \sin(2\pi N))]] +$$

$$[[r^N(l\tilde{c}\cos(2\pi N) - \tilde{c}\sin(2\pi N), \tilde{c}\cos(2\pi N) + l\tilde{c}\sin(2\pi N))]]$$

Case 1:

$$\begin{aligned} d &= l\tilde{c}\cos\psi - \tilde{c}\sin\psi, 0 = \tilde{c}\cos\psi + l\tilde{c}\sin\psi \\ l\tilde{c} &= d\cos\psi, \tilde{c} = d\sin\psi \end{aligned}$$

No solution.

Case 2:

$$\begin{aligned} d &= d\cos\psi, 0 = d\sin\psi, \\ l\tilde{c} &= l\tilde{c}\cos\psi - \tilde{c}\sin\psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c}\cos\psi + l\tilde{c}\sin\psi \end{aligned}$$

The solution is $\cos\psi = 1, \sin\psi = 0$, hence $2\pi N = \psi = 2k\pi, N = k$.

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^k [[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + \tilde{c}r^k [[(l\cos(k\theta) - \sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta) + l\sin(k\theta))]]$$

$$(1)+(6). (a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0.$$

$$(a + \tilde{a}, b + \tilde{b}, c + \tilde{c}, d + \tilde{d}) = (d + l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, d - l\tilde{c})$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(1)+(7). (a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (d, 0, 0, d)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(d, 0)]] + r^N [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(d\cos(2\pi N), d\sin(2\pi N))]] + r^N [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $d \neq 0$, the only possible matching up is

$$d = d\cos\psi, 0 = d\sin\psi$$

i.e. $\sin\psi = 0, \cos\psi = 1$.

$N = k$, for some positivie integer $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^k [[(\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$(2)+(2). (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-\tilde{d}, 0, 0, \tilde{d}), \tilde{d} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-d - \tilde{d}, 0, 0, d + \tilde{d})$$

$$g(r, 0) = [[r^N(-d, 0)]] + [[r^N(-\tilde{d}, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = [[r^N(-d\cos\psi, d\sin\psi)]] + [[r^N(-\tilde{d}\cos\psi, \tilde{d}\sin\psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$-d = -d\cos\psi, 0 = d\sin\psi, -\tilde{d} = -\tilde{d}\cos\psi, 0 = \tilde{d}\sin\psi$$

Hence $\cos\psi = 1, \sin\psi = 0$, i.e.,

$$N = k, \text{ for some positive integer } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^k [[(-\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + \tilde{d}r^k [[(-\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$-d = -\tilde{d} \cos \psi, 0 = \tilde{d} \sin \psi, -\tilde{d} = -d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = \pm 1$.

If $\cos \psi = 1$, then $d = \tilde{d}$, which means that $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore $\cos \psi = -1$, which means $N = k/2$ for some odd integer k . Moreover, we get $d = -\tilde{d}$.

$$g(r, \theta) = \pm dr^k [[(-\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]]$$

$$(2)+(3). (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, \tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{b} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-d, \tilde{b}, \tilde{b}, d)$$

$$g(r, 0) = [[r^N(-d, 0)]] + [[r^N(0, \tilde{b})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = [[r^N(-d \cos \psi, d \sin \psi)]] + [[r^N(\tilde{b} \sin \psi, \tilde{b} \cos \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$-d = -d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi, 0 = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, \tilde{b} = \tilde{b} \cos \psi$$

Hence $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, i.e. $N = k$, for some positive integer $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$g(r, \theta) = d[[r^k(-\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + \tilde{b}r^k[[\sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$-d = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, 0 = \tilde{b} \cos \psi, 0 = -d \cos \psi, \tilde{b} = d \sin \psi$$

No solution.

$$(2)+(4) (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{b} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-d, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, d)$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(2)+(5) (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c} - d, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c} + d)$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(2)+(6) (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c} - d, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, d - l\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(-d, 0)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(-d \cos \psi, d \sin \psi)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$-d = -d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi$$

$$l\tilde{c} = l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, i.e. $N = k$, for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = dr^k [[(-\cos(k\theta), \sin(k\theta))]] + \tilde{c}r^k [[(l \cos(k\theta) + \sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta) - l \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$\begin{aligned} -d &= l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, 0 = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi \\ l\tilde{c} &= -d \cos \psi, \tilde{c} = d \sin \psi \end{aligned}$$

No solution.

$$(2)+(7). (a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d), d \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (-d, 0, 0, d)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(-d, 0)]] + r^N [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(-d \cos \psi, d \sin \psi)]] + r^N [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $d \neq 0$, there is only one way of matching up:

$$-d = -d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi$$

Therefore $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(-d \cos(k\theta), d \sin(k\theta))]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$(3)+(3): (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, \tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{b} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, b + \tilde{b}, b + \tilde{b}, 0)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, b)]] + r^N [[(0, \tilde{b})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, b \cos \psi)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{b} \sin \psi, \tilde{b} \cos \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$0 = b \sin \psi, b = b \cos \psi, 0 = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, \tilde{b} = \tilde{b} \cos \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, i.e. $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^k [[(\sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta))]] + \tilde{b}r^k [[(\sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$0 = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, b = \tilde{b} \cos \psi, 0 = b \sin \psi, \tilde{b} = b \cos \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = \pm 1$.

If $\cos \psi = 1$, then $b = \tilde{b}$, which means $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore $\cos \psi = -1$, $b = -\tilde{b}$ and $N = k/2$ for some odd integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^{k/2} [[(\sin(\theta k/2), \cos(\theta k/2))]] + (-b)r^{k/2} [[(\sin(\theta k/2), \cos(\theta k/2))]]$$

$$(3)+(4) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{b} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, b + \tilde{b}, b - \tilde{b}, 0)$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(3)+(5) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, b - \tilde{c}, b + \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c})$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(3)+(6) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, b + \tilde{c}, b + \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, b)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, b \cos \psi)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$0 = b \sin \psi, b = b \cos \psi$$

$$l\tilde{c} = l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^k [[(\sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta))]] + r^k [[(l\tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) + \tilde{c} \sin(k\theta), \tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) - l\tilde{c} \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$0 = l\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, b = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - l\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

$$l\tilde{c} = b \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = b \cos \psi$$

No solution.

$$(3)+(7) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0).$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, b, b, 0)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, b)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, b \cos \psi)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $b \neq 0$, there is only one way of matching up:

$$0 = b \sin \psi, b = b \cos \psi$$

Hence $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, i.e. $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^k [[(\sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta))]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$(4)+(4) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, \tilde{b}, -\tilde{b}, 0), \tilde{b} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, b + \tilde{b}, -(b + \tilde{b}), 0)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, -b)]] + r^N [[(0, -\tilde{b})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, -b \cos \psi)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{b} \sin \psi, -\tilde{b} \cos \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$0 = b \sin \psi, -b = -b \cos \psi, 0 = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, -\tilde{b} = -\tilde{b} \cos \psi$$

The solution is $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^k [[(\sin(k\theta), -\cos(k\theta))]] + \tilde{b}r^k [[(\sin(k\theta), -\cos(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$0 = \tilde{b} \sin \psi, -b = -\tilde{b} \cos \psi, 0 = b \sin \psi, -\tilde{b} = -b \cos \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = \pm 1$.

If $\cos \psi = 1$, then $b = \tilde{b}$, which means $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore $\cos \psi = -1$, hence $b = -\tilde{b}$, and $N = k/2$ for some odd integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^{k/2} [[(\sin(\theta k/2), -\cos(\theta k/2))]] + (-b)r^{k/2} [[(\sin(\theta k/2), -\cos(\theta k/2))]]$$

$$(4)+(5) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, b - \tilde{c}, -b + \tilde{c}, l\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, -b)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, -b \cos \psi)]] + r^N [[(l\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} \cos \psi + l\tilde{c} \sin \psi)]]$$

Case 1

$$0 = b \sin \psi, -b = -b \cos \psi$$

$$l\tilde{c} = l\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c} \cos \psi + l\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

The solution is $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = br^k [[(\sin(k\theta), -\cos(k\theta))]] + \tilde{c}r^k [[(l \cos(k\theta) - \sin(k\theta), \cos(k\theta) + l \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2

$$0 = l\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, -b = \tilde{c} \cos \psi + l\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

$$l\tilde{c} = b \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = -b \cos \psi$$

No solutions.

$$(4)+(6) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c}), l \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0.$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (l\tilde{c}, b + \tilde{c}, -b + \tilde{c}, -l\tilde{c})$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(4)+(7) (a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0), b \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0).$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, b, -b, 0)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(0, -b)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(b \sin \psi, -b \cos \psi)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $b \neq 0$, there is only one way of matching up

$$0 = b \sin \psi, -b = -b \cos \psi$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(b \sin(k\theta), -b \cos(k\theta))] + [(0, 0)]]$$

$$(5)+(5) \quad (a, b, c, d) = (lc, -c, c, lc), l \neq 0, c \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (\tilde{l}\tilde{c}, -\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{l}\tilde{c}), \tilde{l} \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a + \tilde{a}, b + \tilde{b}, c + \tilde{c}, d + \tilde{d}) = (lc + \tilde{l}\tilde{c}, -c - \tilde{c}, c + \tilde{c}, lc + \tilde{l}\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(lc, c)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi)]]$$

Case 1

$$lc = lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, c = c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi$$

$$\tilde{l}\tilde{c} = \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

The solution is $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(lc \cos(k\theta) - c \sin(k\theta), c \cos(k\theta) + lc \sin(k\theta))] + r^k [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) - \tilde{c} \sin(k\theta), \tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) + \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2

$$lc = \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{c} \sin \psi, c = \tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

$$\tilde{l}\tilde{c} = lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = \pm 1$.

If $\cos \psi = 1$, then $l = \tilde{l}$ and $c = \tilde{c}$, which means $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore $\cos \psi = -1$, hence $N = k/2$, for some odd integer k , $c = -\tilde{c}, l = \tilde{l}$

$$g(r, \theta) = \pm r^{k/2} [[(lc \cos(\theta k/2) - c \sin(\theta k/2), c \cos(\theta k/2) + lc \sin(\theta k/2))]]$$

$$(5)+(6) \quad (a, b, c, d) = (lc, -c, c, lc), l \neq 0, c \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (\tilde{l}\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -\tilde{l}\tilde{c}), \tilde{l} \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (lc + \tilde{l}\tilde{c}, -c + \tilde{c}, c + \tilde{c}, lc - \tilde{l}\tilde{c})$$

which is in neither of the seven forms above.

$$(5)+(7) \quad (a, b, c, d) = (lc, -c, c, lc), l \neq 0, c \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0).$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (lc, -c, c, lc)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(lc, c)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $c \neq 0$, there is only one way of matching up

$$lc = lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, c = c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(lc \cos(k\theta) - c \sin(k\theta), c \cos(k\theta) + lc \sin(k\theta))] + [(0, 0)]]$$

$$(6)+(6) (a, b, c, d) = (lc, c, c, -lc), l \neq 0, c \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (\tilde{l}\tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{c}, -\tilde{l}\tilde{c}), \tilde{l} \neq 0, \tilde{c} \neq 0$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (lc + \tilde{l}\tilde{c}, c + \tilde{c}, c + \tilde{c}, -lc - \tilde{l}\tilde{c})$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(lc, c)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c}, \tilde{c})]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi, c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi)]] + r^N [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi)]]$$

Case 1:

$$lc = lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi, c = c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi$$

$$\tilde{l}\tilde{c} = \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, i.e $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(lc \cos(k\theta) + c \sin(k\theta), c \cos(k\theta) - lc \sin(k\theta))]$$

$$+ r^k [[(\tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) + \tilde{c} \sin(k\theta), \tilde{c} \cos(k\theta) - \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin(k\theta))]]$$

Case 2:

$$lc = \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \cos \psi + \tilde{c} \sin \psi, c = \tilde{c} \cos \psi - \tilde{l}\tilde{c} \sin \psi$$

$$\tilde{l}\tilde{c} = lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi, \tilde{c} = c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = \pm 1$.

If $\cos \psi = 1$, then $c = \tilde{c}, l = \tilde{l}$, which means $\Sigma(g) = \emptyset$, a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore $\cos \psi = -1$, hence $N = k/2$ for some odd integer k and $c = -\tilde{c}, l = \tilde{l}$.

$$g(r, \theta) = \pm r^{k/2} [[(lc \cos(\theta k/2) + c \sin(\theta k/2), c \cos(\theta k/2) - lc \sin(\theta k/2))]]$$

$$(6)+(7) (a, b, c, d) = (lc, c, c, -lc), l \neq 0, c \neq 0, (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$(a, b, c, d) + (\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{d}) = (lc, c, c, -lc)$$

$$g(r, 0) = r^N [[(lc, c)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

$$g(r, 2\pi) = r^N [[(lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi, c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi)]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

Since $c \neq 0$, the only matching up is

$$lc = lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi, c = c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi$$

The solution is $\sin \psi = 0, \cos \psi = 1$, hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = r^k [[(lc \cos(k\theta) + c \sin(k\theta), c \cos(k\theta) - lc \sin(k\theta))]] + [[(0, 0)]]$$

(7)+(7) This case does not happen because otherwise $g \equiv 2[[0]]$.

3.2 $\Sigma = \emptyset$

If $\Sigma = \emptyset$, applying Theorem 2.3(2) to the function g , more specifically, by choosing $W = \mathbb{U}_1^2(0)$, we get

$$g(x) = 2[[g_1(x)]], x \in \mathbb{U}_1^2(0),$$

for some minimizing harmonic function $g_1 : \mathbb{U}_1^2(0) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$.

The same argument as above tells that

$$g_1(r, \theta) = (r^N(a \cos(N\theta) + b \sin(N\theta)), r^N(c \cos(N\theta) + d \sin(N\theta)))$$

for some constants a, b, c, d in one of the six forms (1)-(6) above.

Case (1). $(a, b, c, d) = (d, 0, 0, d)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (dr^N, 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(d \cos \psi), r^N(d \sin \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $d = d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k.$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[[((dr^k \cos(k\theta), dr^k \sin(k\theta)))]],$$

for some nonzero constant d and some positive integer k .

Case (2). $(a, b, c, d) = (-d, 0, 0, d)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (-dr^N, 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(-d \cos \psi), r^N(d \sin \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $-d = -d \cos \psi, 0 = d \sin \psi$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[[((-dr^k \cos(k\theta), dr^k \sin(k\theta)))]],$$

for some nonzero constant d and some positive integer k .

Case (3). $(a, b, c, d) = (0, b, b, 0)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (0, br^N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(b \sin \psi), r^N(b \cos \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $0 = b \sin \psi, b = b \cos \psi$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[[((br^k \sin(k\theta), br^k \cos(k\theta)))]],$$

for some nonzero constant b and some positive integer k .

Case (4). $(a, b, c, d) = (0, b, -b, 0)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (0, -br^N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(b \sin \psi), r^N(-b \cos \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $0 = b \sin \psi, -b = -b \cos \psi$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[[((br^k \sin(k\theta), -br^k \cos(k\theta)))]],$$

for some nonzero constant b and some positive integer k .

Case (5). $(a, b, c, d) = (lc, -c, c, lc)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (lcr^N, cr^N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $lc = lc \cos \psi - c \sin \psi, c = c \cos \psi + lc \sin \psi$. Solving that gives $\cos \psi = 1, \sin \psi = 0$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[[((r^k(lc \cos(k\theta) - c \sin(k\theta)), r^k(c \cos(k\theta) + lc \sin(k\theta)))]],$$

for some nonzero constant l, c and some positive integer k .

Case (6). $(a, b, c, d) = (lc, c, c, -lc)$.

$$g_1(r, 0) = (ar^N, cr^N) = (lcr^N, cr^N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(r, 2\pi) &= (r^N(a \cos \psi + b \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi + d \sin \psi)) \\ &= (r^N(lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi), r^N(c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $lc = lc \cos \psi + c \sin \psi$, $c = c \cos \psi - lc \sin \psi$. Solving that gives $\cos \psi = 1$, $\sin \psi = 0$, i.e.,

$$2\pi N = 2k\pi, \text{ for some positive integer } k$$

Hence $N = k$ for some positive integer k .

$$g(r, \theta) = 2[(r^k(lc \cos(k\theta) + c \sin(k\theta)), r^k(c \cos(k\theta) - lc \sin(k\theta)))]$$

for some nonzero constant l, c and some positive integer k . □

References

- [AF] Frederick J. Almgren, Jr. *Q-valued functions minimizing dirichlet's integral and the regularity of the area-minimizing rectifiable currents up to codimension 2*, World Scientific 2000
- [CR] Richard Courant, *Dirichlet's principle, conformal mapping, and minimal surfaces*, Interscience Publishers, INC, New York, 1950
- [FH] Herbert Federer, *Geometric measure theory*, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1969
- [GJ] Jordan Goblet, *A selection theory for multiple-valued functions in the sense of Almgren*, *Annales Academiae Scientiarum Fennicae Mathematica*, Vol. 31. 2006, 297-314
- [GL] Nicola Garafolo and Fanghua Lin, *Monotonicity properties of variational integrals, A_p weights unique continuation*, *Indiana U. Math. J.* 35 (1986), 245-267
- [GS] Mikhael Gromov and Richard Schoen, *Harmonic maps into singular spaces and p-adic superrigidity for lattices in groups of rank one*, *Inst. Hautes Etudes Sci. Publ. Math.* 76 (1992), 165-246
- [LC1] Chun-Chi Lin, *Variational problems with multiple-valued functions and mappings*, PhD Thesis, Rice University
- [LC2] Chun-Chi Lin, *On the regularity of two-dimensional stationary-harmonic multiple-valued functions*, preprint
- [LF] Fanghua Lin, *Nodal sets of solutions of elliptic and parabolic equations*, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math* 44 (1991), 287-308
- [MP] Pertti Mattila, *Lower semicontinuity, existence and regularity theorems for elliptic variational integrals of multiple valued functions*, *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*, Vol. 280, No. 2, 1983

- [ZW1] Wei Zhu, An energy reducing flow for multiple-valued functions, arXiv:math.AP/0606478
- [ZW2] Wei Zhu, Analysis on metric space \mathbb{Q} , arXiv:math.GN/0607560
- [ZW3] Wei Zhu, A regularity theory for multiple-valued Dirichlet minimizing maps, preprint